

MAR 84

Lakehead amateur radio club

HIGH-Q

*Entered in
Online DB*

THE MARCH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 8 STARTING AT
7:00 P.M. THERE WILL BE A SHORT MEETING AND AT 8:00 P.M. WE WILL
TAKE A TOUR OF THUNDER BAY TELEPHONE BUILDING. BE SURE TO ATTEND
AND REMEMBER IT STARTS AT 7:00 P.M., AND HOUR EARLIER THAN NORMAL.

THUNDER BAY REPEATER NOTES

VE3TBR is up and running again after experiencing some technical problems.

A meeting was held by the repeater committee on the future of VE3YQT and getting the new machine "on the hill". The story so far is as follows: There is a new machine on 46/06 that is ready to go. The hang-up's have been auto-patch and control. After some wrong ways, auto-patch will be implemented as follows: A UHF link will be used as a one way circuit to get the phone lines to the repeater. A VHF receiver will monitor the output of VE3YQT so the mobile's audio can be brought down to the phone lines. A new UHF receiver/transmitter is being reworked now and a new control chip has been ordered.

It seems that the repeater committee has a new lease on life and auto-patch should be available on VE3YQT by May/June.

CRRL NEWS

South of the border the FCC is pondering where to put cordless fones. As an interim measure, they have allocated 10 channels in the 46-49 Mhz band. Most Canadian telephones also use a channel in the 1.6 - 1.8 Mhz band. Too often, however, the fones are mis-tuned and interfere with major segments of the 160 metre band. Last year communications minister Fox assured CRRL that the new TRC-68 would end such problems. Obviously there is more work to be done.

CRRL news via VE3AYZ.

A WEEKEND IN HOUGHTON?

On the weekend of July 28 there will be a mini-hamfest in Houghton, Mich. There has been some interest shown by locals in attending this. An ideal way to get there would be by the new hovercraft from Th.Bay to Isle Royal and then to Houghton. At the moment details are rather vague. But more info is coming and will be in High-Q. Stay tuned.

FOR SALE

Gerry, VE3 has the following for sale:

- 1/ SB HEATHKIT LINEAR
Mint condition, and complete with 10 metres
- 2/ 18AVT/WB Hygain vertical antenna, covers 80
through 10 metres, \$100.00

Give him a call at home, or at work. Res: 577-3575, Bus: 345-1661

If you have anything to sell, trade or want and want it in High-Q, give me a call at 623-1542.

COMPUTER INFORMATION INTERCHANGE

USING MODEMS

Years ago information was exchanged using a system of signals: dots and dashes, known as Morse Code.

Later, a method was derived to record the message on paper tape, which made a mark and then a space, corresponding to the dots or dashes and the spaces between the terms "mark" and "space" are still used to denote a one and zero.

Some codes for information transmittal are: binary coded decimal represented by 4 bits; Baudot which is a 5 level and the American Standard Code for information interchange (ASCII), a 7 bit code.

There are two ways to send data: parallel when data is sent all bits at once. Using serial transmission bits are sent out 1 bit after another.

Serial transmission can be divided into synchronous: when characters are sent in a continuous data stream with no intervals between characters. The other form is non-synchronous transmission of data: sending at random intervals depending upon the stream of digital pulses coming from the terminal.

When characters are sent to a modem the synchronizing is done by sending a start bit, the data bits, and a stop bit. There is an I.C. that does this automatically: gets the character from the data bus, adds a start and stop bit, then transmits it serially to an external device. Another section of the I.C. receives serial data and holds it for the computer to get on the data bus. This I.C. is called a universal Asynchronous receiver/transmitter (UART for short).

The next step is to interface the output of the UART to a modem. A standard interface was required, and the result is the RS-232-C.

This standard defines pin numbers, voltage levels, signal protocol, etc. Briefly, the voltage levels are between 5 and 25 volts positive for on and 5 to 25 volts negative for off levels between +3 and -3 are undefined-- A transition period where nothing is allowed to happen.

To be continued...

Randy Creighton

EDITORS MUSINGS?

This is where I get to mumble in print.

As you have noticed in this and the last High-Q, there has been two excellent antenna articles. Why not give one or both a try and then let us know how they worked.

In this and the next issue is an article on Modems by Randy Creighton. Later we hope to have articles on local bulleting boards. And how to use them.

Again send in any ads that you want in print.

And finally, don't forget the dinner meeting coming up. The dinner/dance will be held on June 16/84 which is a Saturday. The cost will be in the \$20.00 (per person) range. So why not make arrangements to attend.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Thursday February 9, 1984

PRESENT: VE3EFC, ECV, BCD, KRD, HTM, KRL, ZG, HZM, LMJ, EDX, AHD, KRO, HPT, and Bert Stamp.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by the President, Don KRO. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Greg HPT and a motion to adopt them as read was made by Vic ECV and seconded by Mike ZG. The motion was carried.

The financial statement was read and a motion to accept it as read was made by Bill EFC and seconded by John HTM. The motion was carried.

Dan KRO queried as to the status of the 1984 Callbooks that were ordered in November. No word has been received from Ham Traders yet. Dan KRO reminded everyone to get their orders in for the 50th Anniversary commemorative T-shirts and hats. He also stated the hats will be blue and white and the T-shirts will be blue lettering on white material.

Dan then called for reports from those members who conducted the telephone survey for a Dinner Dance to be held June 16, 1984. After much calculation it appears that 30 hams of those who were contacted would be interested in attending the affair. (plus some of their spouses) Bob KRL will look into some prices and accommodations that would be suitable for the event.

In new business, Bob KRL was signing up volunteers to provide communications for the Thunder Country Ski Tours Race to be held Saturday March 3 on the Sibley Peninsula.

Ken EFZ reported that after much door knocking and phoning he was unable to find any funding for the cost of printing the Manabliou Awards. However, the Visitors and Convention Bureau would provide postage in exchange for permission to stuff the envelopes with promotional literature of their own.

Bob KRL mentioned that he knew of a potential source of funding that he would investigate. Similarly Mike HZW knew of another potential source.

Dan KRO reminded those present that we should expect to be called upon by the Royal Canadian Legion to assist during their annual Road Race to be held in May.

Vic ECV wondered about a special prefix to use during the week of the Anniversary celebrations. Mike ZG said he would check his manuals in regards to our eligibility for a special prefix. The secretary was instructed to compose a formal letter of request that Mike could forward to Ottawa.

Dan KRO reminded everyone about the tour of the Vicker's Street Telephone Exchange to be held Thursday March 8, 1984 following the general meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting proceeded to committee reports. Bill EFC was congratulated for his exceptional premiere issue of HiQ for January. John HTM mentioned that announcements of the meeting were broadcast on his A.M. station during the day. Laurie BCD will call the next meeting of the repeater committee. They will consider Tom EEW's latest proposal regarding autopatch facilities for VE3YQT in exchange for some of the Club's property. Mike HZW made a motion that the Club approach those on the survey list with a letter soliciting membership in the Club. The motion was seconded by Mike ZG and was then carried. The Secretary will handle this task.

Mike HZW mentioned that the local media would be very willing to carry stories about Ham Radio in Thunder Bay in conjunction with the Club's 50th Anniversary since April is slow month for Newsworthy events. Dan KRO said he would check with some of the old timers for their participation in this free publicity for the club.

Dan KRO reminded everyone that there will be a Swap Shop after the April meeting.

Bert Stamp won the door prize for the handbook "Understanding Microprocessors".

The round table followed and a motion to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. was made by Bob KRL and seconded by Bill EFC. The motion was carried.

Greg Zubatar VE3HPT
Secretary-Treasurer